

Pastor's Annual Report

The gracious presence of God in the midst of what happens to us as a community of faith has marked our steps over the last year. We wrote 2015 with our words and with our lives, but TCP pastors and members have been writing this report together for 74 years. And even as we celebrate 2015 we are already writing 2016 and beyond.

The comfort in that is that we aren't in this alone. The challenge in that is that our "page" in the life of this congregation is not yet done. Our chapter of our life together at TCP gets written every day – ready or not.

I have enjoyed the privilege of being with you these last 6 years, in good days and bad, in joyful moments and in times of sorrow. I thank God daily for your work, your service, your worship, your prayers, and your gifts that make TCP a faithful servant of the Lord. I am glad God called me to be with you and that the presence of God will continue to sustain our life together that we may look forward to serving God now even as we plan for those who will come after us.

With the leadership of the countless dedicated servants that call TCP "their church", there is nothing that we as a faith community cannot accomplish when we call upon God for wisdom and guidance. With that faith and knowledge, the possibilities for our congregation become endless.

2015, like 2014 was another banner year in the life of TCP. You'll recall that in 2014, we began our Pillars in Faith capital improvement campaign with a bang. With your help we raised over \$50,000 that year to repair our failing outside pillars. Your generosity did not end there. We ended 2014 with an amazing surplus to our operating budget which effectively wiped out any previous deficits from years before. We then went to work and saw the upgrading of our building begin. The pillars were made new and better and will serve our building for the rest of its existence. Last summer we painted the entire exterior so that along with our attractive new pillars, the rest of the building looks brand new (except for our tired, old roof!) There's more work to be done in 2015. Our sanctuary floor needs to be refinished and our carpeting everywhere needs to be replaced. Those items, as well as our roof are on our list for things that need to be done from 2016 – 2019.

Once again, because of your generosity and commitment we came to the end of 2015 with another surplus in our operating budget. We even had many designation giving for the 2016 budget so we are off to a great start.

God is love. That love is pictured in the faces of many whom he loves through you and me. That picture is still not faded. Our God given gifts are as varied as our faces. We need only share what we have for our picture to get better still in the years ahead.

And so as your pastor I continue to see God calling us to move forward as a covenant community that:

- calls God's pastor and people to a stewardship commitment of time, talent and treasure that will meet the needs of the local church's mission of Christ to the world,
- shares ministry and leadership,
- ranks the administration of Christ's Church as one of the gifts of the Spirit to be exercised with energy, skill, intelligence, enthusiasm, imagination and love,
- sees evangelism and mission as the ministry of the whole congregation, while seeking Christ as Lord and participating in the church's world-wide mission,
- puts forth its friendly nature to all its members and visitors alike,
- continues the effort to keep, maintain and update our building and grounds so that our ministry may continue to be vibrant, that it may relate to the rest of the community in a most relevant and responsible way,

In the life of the church we are often called to "remember". In our celebration of the Lord's Supper we are reminded that Jesus asked us to share bread and wine "in remembrance of him." But remember means more than just "recollect." It means "remember." It is my prayer that we will all find our place in the history and tradition of our faith, among those who've gone before, and find a place in our life right now for history and tradition to support us and remind us of God's presence with us always: past, present and future!

With firm reliance upon the God of all to guide and uphold us, with wholehearted dependence upon the Holy Spirit to lead us, and with Christian love and confidence in each other to encourage us, we press on eagerly. Dwight Moody once said, "The world has yet to see what God can do with a [man] who is fully consecrated to Him." Let's change the word "man" to "Church", so that it reads "The world has yet to see what God can do with a CHURCH that is fully consecrated to Him." We can be that Church.

I would like to thank Diane Temple for her dedicated and hard work as our Administrative Assistant. I thank Karen Rempel who tirelessly keeps our building clean and ready for Sunday mornings. I also thank my colleagues in ministry, the deacons and elders, Jill Buckingham, Gayle Langley and Dale Baan, and Larry Bacon, Sara Moran, Bob Spaet, Harry Canon and Geoff Elliott, for their continuing ministries and for their support of mine as well. And particular thanks to my family, my wife, Christina, whose support and love continues to nurture me. As always, we covet your prayers and continued support.

Grateful for your love and support,
David